

July 11, 2012

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD.**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

The Torrance Cable Television Advisory Board convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 11, 2012, at 7:02 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room located in the Stanley E. Remelmeyer Telecommunications Center.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Commissioners, Brennan, De Rago, Frantz, Kellogg, Seferian, Thomas, Chairman Ozenne

**Also Present:** Cindy Hibbard, Secretary  
Don Fefie, TCtv Coordinator  
Michael D. Smith, Cable & Community Relations Manager

**Excused:** None

**Absent:** None

**3. FLAG SALUTE:**

The salute to the flag of the United States of America was led by Commissioner Brennan.

**4. MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA:**

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Brennan moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on posting of the agenda for this meeting. This motion seconded by Commissioner Frantz, carried with an aye vote.*

**5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS - NONE**

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A) December 14, 2011**

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Seferian moved to approve the minutes of September 14, 2011 as amended. This motion seconded by Commissioner Frantz, motion carried with an aye vote. Commissioner De Rago abstained.*

**7. SCHEDULED BUSINESS:**

**A) Community Matters – NONE**

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**1) Committee Reports – NONE**

**B) Report of the Community Television Center**

- 1) December, 2011**
- 2) January, 2012**
- 3) February, 2012**
- 4) March, 2012**
- 5) April, 2012**
- 6) May, 2012**
- 7) June, 2012** – Manager Smith explained the overall concept and purpose of the report. Identified key statistics, discussed impact, responded to inquiries from the Commissioners. Commissioners requested instead of providing statistics each month, provide analysis why the numbers are higher or lower. Discuss what is happening from a conversational point of view.

Brief discussion followed.

**MOTION:** *Commissioner De Rago moved to accept the Torrance Community Television Center Report for December, 2011, January thru June 2012. This motion seconded by Commissioner Frantz, motion carried with aye vote.*

**D) Report of Legislative and Cable Related Activities**

Manager Smith also summarized the following:

Verizon Communications is now offering a top speed of 300 Megabit per second broadband in many FiOS areas -- introducing "FiOS Quantum" as the new brand for its super-fast Internet offerings -- while it also is increasing pricing and connection speeds for most existing customers.

Eighty-eight percent of Americans who own a cellphone say they use that device to access the Internet, according to a new Pew Internet and American Life Project survey. That's up from the 31% of respondents in 2009 who said they use their phones to go online.

If the U.S. government mandated that TV channels be sold individually, only five to 10 traditional TV networks would survive -- destroying up to \$300 billion of value, endangering some 1 million jobs and curtailing consumers' video choices, according to an analysis by Needham & Co. According to Needham's analysis, with unbundling, TV subscription revenue would decline 15% to 20% and ad revenue would plummet 75%. Meanwhile, if content companies delivered content directly to consumers, they would incur customer service costs estimated at \$50 per customer per year, or \$5 billion nationally.

According to recent market research, cable operators still rule the roost when it comes to the number of worldwide pay-TV subscribers, but satellite and IPTV providers are poised for a takeover. The report by Infonetics Research said Comcast was the global pay-TV leader, with more than 22 million subscribers last year.

Comcast agreed Wednesday to pay the federal government \$800,000 for failing to

adhere to a condition of its merger with NBCUniversal that required it to offer subscribers a standalone high-speed Internet service for two years, the FCC said.

Dish Network would create tens of thousands of new jobs if the FCC allows it to use broadband wireless spectrum to distribute video and high-speed Internet services to mobile viewers, chairman Charlie Ergen plans to testify at a House hearing on Wednesday.

In a victory for cable operators, the Supreme Court has denied an appeal by DirecTV and Dish of an Ohio tax on satellite service not applied to cable operators. The lower courts ruled that it was not unconstitutional for Ohio to use the difference in transmission to impose a tax on satellite service that it did not levy on cable.

Brief discussion followed.

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Brennan moved to accept the Legislative and Cable Related Report for June 2012. This motion seconded by Commissioner De Rago, motion carried with aye vote.*

E) Old Business - NONE

F) New Business

- 1) A recommendation from the Cable & Community Relations Manager that the Cable Television Advisory Board elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the fiscal year 2012/13.

Following self introductions, the following motion was passed.

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Seferian moved to elect Commissioner Ozenne as Chairman, and Brennan as Vice Chairwoman. This motion seconded by Commissioner Frantz, motion carried with aye vote.*

- 2) A recommendation from the Cable & Community Relations Manager that the Chairperson appoint Chairperson to the Producer Incentive Committee.

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Seferian moved to appoint Commissioner De Rago as Chairman, and Seferian a member to the Producer Incentive Committee. This motion seconded by Commissioner Frantz, motion carried with aye vote.*

- 3) A recommendation from the Cable & Community Relations Manager that the Chairperson appoint two new members to the Operating Policies and Procedure Committee.

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Seferian moved to appoint Commissioner Frantz as Chairman, and Thomas a member to the Operating Policies and Procedures Committee. This motion seconded by Commissioner Frantz, motion carried with aye vote.*

- 4) A recommendation from the Cable & Community Relations Manager that the Chairperson appoint new members to the 21st Annual TCtv Video Programming Awards Committee and appoint a new chairperson.

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Seferian moved to appoint Commissioner Kellogg as Chairman, Brennan and Seferian members to the 21st Annual TCtv Video Programming Awards Committee. This motion seconded by Commissioner Frantz, motion carried with aye vote.*

**8. ADDENDUM MATTERS - NONE**

**9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A) Chairman Ozenne welcomed new members to the Board.
- B) Chairman Ozenne extended congratulations to Commissioner Brennan for speaking to the City Council about keeping the Commission as a separate and standalone Board.
- C) Commissioner Thomas stated he is looking forward to providing service to the Torrance community and learning more about the role and duties of the commission.
- D) Commissioner Seferian also stated he is looking forward to providing service to the Torrance community and learning more about the role and duties of the commission.
- E) Commissioner Seferian inquired why the Board was being considered to be combining with the Cultural Arts Commission. The City Council considered combining the two commissions due to lack of candidates seeking the positions, minimal action items, and an opportunity to review number of commissions available.
- F) Commissioner Frantz welcomed new members to the Board.
- G) Commissioner De Rago requested a tour of the Telecommunications Center.
- H) Commissioner De Rago also requested a glossary of terms for this industry.
- I) Commissioner Brennan requested a review of TCtv equipment to study.
- J) Commissioner Brennan requested a report on the Public Access Foundation Funds.
- K) Commissioner Brennan requested that the rule change concerning individuals representing non-profits be reconsidered. Commissioner Frantz objected to this request stating that a qualified Committee recommended the changes, the Board approved them, and he sees no reason why they should be reconsidered. Manager Smith expressed concerns that because Commissioner Brennan has a conflict of interest on this issue, and she had to recuse herself from participating in the discussion and vote he did not believe it was appropriate for her to raise the issue. Ultimately, the Board decided not to reconsider this issue.
- L) Secretary Hibbard welcomed all of the new Commissioners and reminded them to attend the Back to TCtv BBQ on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- M) Coordinator Fefie also welcomed all of the new Commissioners and reminded them to attend the Back to TCtv BBQ on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- N) Manager Smith invited everyone to consider participate in the Where's Jared? Photo contest at TorranceCentennial.Org.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Ozenne adjourned the meeting of July 11, 8:33 p.m. to reconvene on August 8, 2012, Wednesday, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Smith  
Cable & Community Relations Manager

**Roll Call:** Brennan ☐ De Rago ☐ Frantz ☐ Kellogg ☐ Seferian ☐ Thomas ☐ Ozenne ☐